

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **RE: CITY COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVES HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE**

On, October 5, 2015, the Beverly City Council voted 9-0 approving the Human Rights Committee, an ordinance created and put forward by Mayor Michael Cahill and Ward 2 City Councilor Estelle Rand.

The Human Rights Committee is an eleven person mayoral appointed committee tasked with being a resource to the City of Beverly and the public, providing education and support to human rights, diversity, and inclusivity with a goal of raising awareness and sensitivity to matters of human and civil rights. Specifically the committee will be tasked with providing the public with contacts at federal, state and local agencies when appropriate as well as provide ongoing campaigns and host free public information events each year to facilitate public education on the subject matter. The committee is not an adjudicatory body.

Mayor Cahill said, "The Human Rights Committee will be a great resource for the community to make sure we continue our tradition here in Beverly as a welcoming and inclusive city for all." Mayor Cahill continued, "I would like to thank Councilor Estelle Rand, members of my administration including Chief of Staff Kevin Harutunian and Solicitor Stephanie Williams as well as the volunteer Ad Hoc Committee for working with me on crafting the ordinance as well as engaging with stake holders to ensure the Human Rights Committee had wide support. I would also like to thank the City Council for their thoughtful consideration and support in passing this important ordinance"

Councilor Rand said, "The establishment of a Human Rights Committee will ensure that Beverly continues to be an inclusive and welcoming committee to all. I am thankful to Mayor Cahill and his administration, my colleagues on the city council, and the members of an ad hoc committee that helped to fine tune the purpose and purview of the Human Rights Committee."

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